

Clinton Irrigation District

CID Schoolhouse Lateral Pipeline Conversion Project

In November 2007, the District obtained DNRC planning grant funds to conduct an inventory and rehabilitation assessment of the District's irrigation infrastructure and develop a Rehabilitation Priorities List. Lining of a reach within the Main Canal was identified as the top priority that was completed in April 2010. The second priority identified by the District was rehabilitation of the Schoolhouse Lateral. A field inspection of the lateral revealed substantial degradation, severe vegetative overgrowth and substantial sedimentation due to the adjacent East Mullan Road runoff. A 1,400 foot reach of the lateral running parallel to East Mullan Road was identified as the critical reach that is being proposed for improvement. Replacing the open lateral system with a pipeline system will eliminate seepage throughout the reach; improve irrigation delivery efficiency and effectiveness; conserve water diverted from the Clark Fork River; and improve the quality of water discharged into 60 Springs. The proposed improvements will help the District eliminate seepage loss, improve water quality, improve water management, and increase crop yields. It was calculated that the Schoolhouse Lateral loses approximately 0.73 cfs (54.4 million gallons per year) through the proposed project area due to seepage losses and delivery inefficiencies.

The proposed project is a vital step toward ensuring sustained, efficient, and effective delivery of irrigation water to members of the District. The landowners served by the Schoolhouse Lateral would lose approximately \$481,740 in potential revenues over the life of the project through reductions in production revenues resulting from the existing inadequate water supply.

The replacement of the open lateral system with a pipeline system will provide the following benefits:

- Eliminated seepage
- Improved water delivery efficiency
- Improved irrigation efficiency
- Conservation of water diverted from the Clark Fork River
- Improved water quality
- Increased crop yields
- Return lost revenues to the local economy
- Conservation of water for recreation, fish, waterfowl, and wildlife habitat
- Development of existing acres that were unable to be irrigated under previous water shortage conditions
- Minimization of the transport sands and gravels pushed into the ditch from the adjacent East Mullan Road to 60 Springs
- Preservation of agricultural area experiencing urbanization
- Sustained agricultural production

Grant Request Amount: \$100,000.00

CID Match Amount: \$14,400.00

Estimated Total Project Cost: \$114,400.00

Clinton Irrigation District sincerely appreciates your consideration of this project and hopes that you will find it as important and necessary as our residents and your constituents have.

